

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Examiner's Office Action mailed on 12 December 2001. In that Action the Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 9 and 10 under 35 USC 102(b) citing the patent to Higuma. The Examiner also objected to claims 6-8 under 35 USC 112.

By the present amendment the Applicant has amended claims 1, 4, and 6; canceled claims 2, 3, 9, and 10; and added new claims 11 - 15. Claims 5, 7, and 8 are pending and are resubmitted without change.

Claim 1: Claim 1 has been amended to recite "pouch material sealed to form a chamber surrounding the reservoir" and "the label being bonded to a wall of the chamber surrounding the reservoir". Higuma discloses a chamber surrounding a reservoir but captures the ends 5a, 5b, Fig. 7 of the sealing tape 5 in the heat staked, end seals of the package. The Applicant submits that Higuma does not disclose or suggest bonding Higuma's sealing tape to a wall of the chamber surrounding the reservoir.

Claim 4: Claim 4 has been amended to specify that longitudinal seal is located "directly opposite" from the label. This seal is illustrated in Applicant's Fig. 7 and is formed in this manner for the several reasons given on page 7 lines 15 - 26 of the application. Although Higuma illustrates a longitudinal seal to the immediate left of the notch 22 in Fig. 7, Higuma does not disclose or suggest putting the longitudinal seal directly opposite the sealing tape 5, Fig. 7.

Claim 5: Claim 5, which depends from claim 1, has been resubmitted without amendment. The Applicant submits that claim 5 is patentably

distinguished over Higuma for the reasons given above.

Claims 6 - 8: Claim 6 has been amended to remove the phrase “laminate label” and claims 6 - 8 are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

The Applicant also notes that Higuma does not disclose or suggest a multilayer laminate label. See Fig. 2B for example.

Claims 11 - 14: These new claims have been added to more clearly define the “deadened adhesive”. These areas are illustrated in Figs 1 and 2 and are identified by reference numeral 24. Antecedent basis for these new claims can be found in the application on pages 8 - 9 and 14. The Applicant submits that the cited prior art neither discloses nor suggests “deadened adhesive” as recited in these new claims.


Claim 15: New claim 15 depends from claim 1. The Applicant submits that claim 15 is patentably distinguished over Higuma because Higuma does not disclose or suggest sizing the label within the margins of the wall on which the label is bonded.

In view of the amendments and the comments set forth herein, The Applicant respectfully submits that the grounds for the Examiner's rejections have been overcome. Accordingly, The Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1, 4 - 8, and 11 - 15 should now be found to be in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKING TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the claims:



1. A package assembly for an ink-jet ink reservoir, comprising:
 - [a)] an ink-jet ink reservoir having a fluid orifice;
 - [b)] a label removably and adhesively bonded to the reservoir and sealing the orifice; and
 - [c)] pouch material sealed to form a chamber surrounding the reservoir, the label being bonded to a wall of the chamber surrounding the reservoir. [bonded to the label and forming a package around the reservoir]

4. The package assembly of claim 1 wherein the pouch material has a longitudinal seal located directly opposite from the label.

6. A removable label for sealing an ink-jet ink reservoir, comprising:
 - [a laminate label having]
 - a layer of adhesive removably bondable to a reservoir;
 - a layer of polyester film on one side of which the adhesive layer is coated;
 - a layer of laminating film on the other side of the polyester film;
 - a layer of aluminum foil, one side of the aluminum foil being bonded to the polyester film by the laminating film;
 - a layer of laminating adhesive; and
 - a polyethylene heat seal film, the other side of the aluminum foil being bonded to the heat seal film by said laminating adhesive.